

# *“Bringing Families Home”*

*Sharon Rapport, CSH  
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# Link Between Homelessness & Child-Welfare Involvement

- **Almost half of children in foster care have a birth parent with a history of homelessness.**
- **About 30% of children in foster care could be reunited with families if the family had access to a safe place to live.**

# Housing Homeless Families Involved with Child Welfare

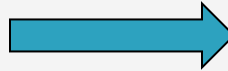
**“Keeping Families Together”: Supportive housing for chronically homeless child-welfare-involved families, with parents experiencing substance use disorders.**



- ❑ Over 61% of cases resolved favorably within 10 months.
  - ❑ Children avoided over 187 days in foster care, on average, compared to control group of families living in shelters.
- ❑ No return to child welfare system over 2 years of study.

# State Budget Proposal

State General Fund: \$10 Million

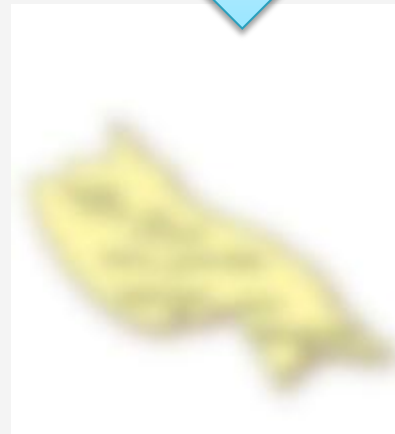


**Example**

**County Match**

**Liaison**

Family Solutions  
Center/Coordinated  
Assessment/Entry

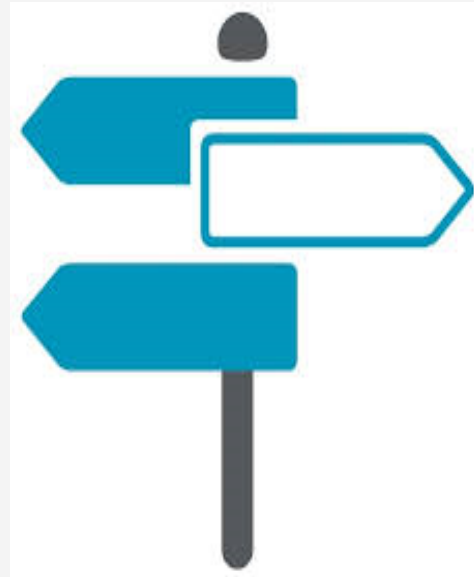


# Assessment of Housing Needs, Helping Families Locate & Move Into . . .

## **Rapid Re-Housing:** Families Experiencing Brief Homelessness Due to Poverty:

- Housing navigators to identify permanent affordable places to live,
- Security deposits,
- Back utility payments,
- Credit clean-up,
- Face-to-face case management to develop rapport with landlords,
- Money management,
- 3-18 months of housing subsidies.

\$4-6,000/family



## **Supportive Housing:** Families Experiencing Chronic Homelessness or Significant Barriers to Housing Stability:

- Housing that's affordable, w/o limit on length of stay,
- Long-term rental subsidy,
- Intensive services promoting housing stability, like—
  - Life skills training,
  - Connection with substance use, mental health, primary care treatment,
  - Linkage to community resources.

\$20,000/year for 5  
years/family



# County Matching Funds

## County match through—

- ❑ Preference for homeless child-welfare-involved families in turn-over Section 8 vouchers,
- ❑ Housing set-asides through county partnerships with affordable housing providers,
- ❑ Local housing or general funds county commits, or
- ❑ Child-welfare funds.

# Budget Process

Identify Supporters/  
Legislative Champion

Jan-  
Feb

Mar

Budget Hearings Begin

Governor Releases  
Revised Budget

May

May Revise Hearings

Legislative Leadership  
Negotiate, Reach Deal

Jun

June 30:  
Legislature Passes Budget

July 15:  
Governor Signs

July

If Passes . . .



**\$10 million=**  
**About 700 Families Exit**  
**Homelessness Statewide**



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